



# POLICE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MAY 4, 2022

## REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Manchester Police Department  
405 Valley Street  
Manchester, NH 03103

The Regular Monthly Meeting was held at the Manchester Police Department Community Room on May 4, 2022, at 9:00am, attended by:

**Commissioners** Manny Content, Eva Castillo and John Mercier

**Police Department Staff** Assistant Chief Steve Mangone, Captain Sean Leighton, Captain Peter Marr, Captain Kenneth Loui, Captain Shawn McCabe, Captain Christopher Goodnow, Lieutenant John Cunningham, Lieutenant Matthew Barter, Heather Hamel (PIO), Emily Cleary (Crime Analyst) Diane Kingsbury (Admin. Assist.)

**Others attending the Public Session:** Manchester business owner and blogger Jeff Hastings, Manchester business owner Nick Grey, Manchester business owner Martha Edgar

### 1. COMMISSION CHAIRMAN OPENING COMMENTS

- Commissioner Manny Content opened the meeting at 8:57a.m., welcoming all those present.

### 2. NOTICES POSTED / APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- The Commission confirmed with Diane Kingsbury that the notices had been posted at the City Library as well as on the MPD's website homepage, event calendar, and via social media.
- Commissioners present unanimously voted to approve the minutes from the 4/6/22 meeting.

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Content explained that each Manchester resident wishing to speak shall state his/her name and address, each will have only one opportunity to speak, and will be limited to three minutes in which to address comments on a particular subject to the Commission.

- Nick Gray shared that he is a Manchester resident and business owner/landlord and asked how he and other business owners in the city could work to support and interact with the department. Captain Goodnow mentioned that a good place to start would be through neighborhood community groups as well as business/landlord groups, which provide a platform to get together with other local businesses and converse back and forth with the Community Affairs Division to address any concerns and/or issues.

Business owner, Jeff Hastings, added that there is also a 'Downtown Committee' group that meets at different locations on the third Thursday of every month and membership is not required to attend the meeting. Contrary to the name of the group, it is open to all business owners in the city of Manchester and not just those located in the downtown area.

Commissioner Content also made a suggestion based on his experience with community engagement, that participation and dialogue in community events will help to improve recognition and visibility within the community.

Commissioner Castillo also shared an open invite to the monthly Community Action Board (CAB) meetings which are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 12:00pm in the Manchester Police Department Community Room.

### 4. DIVISIONAL REPORTS

#### Investigative Division –Captain Leighton

- Captain Loui and Captain Leighton will be going to Montana to see the progress of the Crime Scene Van and finalize details.
- Sergeant Candice Thomas is at a woman's leadership training in St. Louis.
- New interview room recording equipment will be installed next week, which will include HD cameras and other significant improvements.
- The driver's education video was pushed out locally to SRO's and the response so far has been good.

#### Legal and Professional Standards Division – Captain Loui

- The Training Unit continues to do an outstanding job conducting our 40-hour training weeks, which cover everything from use of force to mental resiliency for our officers. Almost a third of our sworn complement has already been through the training for this year.
- The BolaWrap training for patrol sergeants is complete and we have deployed four of these devices for street supervisor use to restrain non-compliant subjects. Eight members of S.W.A.T. have also been trained to use this tool. The BolaWrap is referred to as a remote restraint device that discharges a Kevlar cord to restrain a non-compliant subject from 10-25 feet away.
- We conducted two 2-day training sessions (April 25/26 and April 27/28) for Active Attack Integrated Response (AAIR) Training. This course is designed to improve the coordination of police, fire and EMS in active

attack/shooter events. It also provides police officers with key medical skills to increase the survivability of victims in such events. 25 officers from MPD attended this training.

**Questions/Comments/Discussion:**

- Commissioner Content inquired if any of the officers who attended the AAIR training were S.W.A.T. officers and was advised by Captain Loui that there were some S.W.A.T officers included in the training. Captain Marr added that some of the S.W.A.T. officers are actually instructors for the training.

**Patrol Division – Captain McCabe**

- Nine officers just started training with their FTO. Their training should be complete around the middle of July.
- Officer Stebbins has submitted his resignation and his last day will be 5/6. He will be going to work at another agency.
- Patrol numbers on paper are currently at 109 assigned. Due to injuries, military, etc., 105 officers are actively working in Patrol and allocated into the three shifts.

**Special Enforcement Division – Lieutenant Cunningham (for Captain Murphy):**

- The joint training with NHSP and FBI was highly beneficial and well received.
- Monthly S.W.A.T. training: 5/10 – annual firearms qualifications, 5/31 – motor vehicle tactics and firearms
- The Special Investigations Unit continues efforts to disrupt the possession and sale of illegal drugs in the City of Manchester. Currently, the division is engaged in several investigations with state and federal partners targeting mid and high level drug trafficking organizations. During the month of April, the execution of a search warrant resulted in the arrest of an individual distributing large amounts of fentanyl. Also, this career felon was found in possession of a stolen firearm at the time of warrant service.
- The Anti-Crime Unit continues efforts to disrupt the illegal possession of firearms associated with gun violence. The unit has several active investigations with state and local partners and continues to make arrests associated with gun violence and other related violent crimes. Career development officers have proven highly effective in supporting unit investigations as well as providing additional hotspot patrols. Coordination with Concord Police Department, US Marshall Service and Central NH SWAT lead to the arrest of shooting suspect, Marcos Nieves. This was an intensive investigative effort which removed a violent felon from city streets.
- The Street Crime Unit continues to address the street level possession and distribution of illegal drugs as well as investigate numerous problem locations reported by the public. Substance Abuse Reduction Grant selected officers are performing exceptionally. As a result of these efforts, several high profile problem locations have been shut down during the month of April. Intelligence developed from proactive efforts of this unit lead to information detailing the location of Nieves.

**Administrative Division – Captain Marr**

- There are currently three subjects in their third week of dispatcher training and are working out very well. There were originally four dispatchers set to be hired but one of them took a job last minute with another agency.
- We are continuing to work on CJIS compliancy by making corrections they brought up in the past.
- We have received 100 new radio batteries which will be transitioned into the department and more will be ordered. Each officer is issued 2 batteries for their radio and the cost of each battery is approximately \$100.
- Working with Fleet to come up with a plan to upfit the 18 cruisers that are scheduled to arrive this fall.
- The next promotional test for sergeants is set for 10/18/22.
- We are moving forward with the AC installation for the new CyberCrime office and currently just waiting on parts to come in.

**Questions/Comments/Discussion:**

- Commissioner Content inquired about the radio batteries and if that technology ever changes. Captain Marr advised that the technology of the radios themselves does not seem to change much. The current radios were purchased 8 years ago at a cost of \$10,000/radio.
- Commissioner Mercier asked for clarification on 'CJIS' and was advised by Captain Marr that it stands for Criminal Justice Information System.

**Community Affairs Division – Captain Goodnow**

- Events within the next 30 days: **5/5** – Chamber of Commerce Taco Tour – Elm Street (large event with hard road closures and several police details), **5/7** – TI Ten Miler – Arms Park, **5/15** – Walk Against Hunger, **5/30** – Memorial Day Parade.
- Traffic Investigators working on a fatal crash from 4/24 at Elm/Merrill.
- Community Policing Events: Senior Walks continuing, Citizens Police Academy continuing, Cops & Kids events throughout the month (13 before the end of the year), Coffee with a Cop on 5/13 at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street McDonalds, 'Just in Case' fair at MPD on 5/22 (to register vulnerable children and adults) part of Alzheimer's program, Mounted Unit has numerous events.
- Continuing to work extensively with Homeless Coordinator, Schonna Green.

- Riverfront camp cleanup on 4/7 was a success. Community Policing continuing to check the area to ensure problem does not start again.
- Community Policing officers have attended numerous community meetings over the past month.
- Drug Take Back day on 4/30 was a success. 668 pounds of unused prescription drugs collected.

**Questions/Comments/Discussion:**

- With regard to the community meetings coming back, Assistant Chief Mangone wanted to acknowledge Captain Goodnow's efforts to transition the planning and organization of these meetings to the Aldermen.

**5. COMMENTS FROM ASSISTANT CHIEF MANGONE**

- Our 9 recruits from the 187<sup>th</sup> Academy started FTO earlier this week. Barring any extensions, they will be solo sometime in early to mid-July.
- The 7 uncertified new hires began the in-house academy this past Monday (5/2). They will be part of the 189<sup>th</sup> FTA which starts on 6/6. They all passed their initial PT test.
- With the new hiring class and recent departure of Officer Stebbins, we will have 12 vacancies.
- The NH Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony is on Friday, 5/20. Several MPD officers will be taking part honoring our fallen as well as the fallen LEO's across the state.

**6. CRIME STATISTIC PRESENTATION FROM LIEUTENANT BARTER**

- Lieutenant Barter presented the commissioners with NIBRS Crime Statistics which will be posted on our website soon.

**Questions/Comments/Discussion:**

- Commissioner Content asked if there is a way to include a footprint of the city with the crime stats to help provide the public with a visual image of the statistics. Lieutenant Barter advised that [www.crimemapping.com](http://www.crimemapping.com) is a great resource to refer the public to which includes maps and visual representations of updated statistics in the city.

**7. COMMISSION ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

**8. TENTATIVE DATE OF THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING**

- Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.
- Reminder that there is no meeting in July

**9. END OF PUBLIC SESSION**

- The Public Session ended at 9:40 a.m.